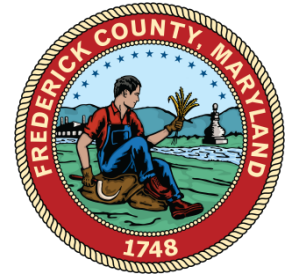




January 15, 2020



Frederick County Sustainability Commission
Meeting Minutes

Present: John Ferri, Betty Law, Ron Kaltenbaugh, David Lake, Jim Reed, Joe Richardson, Mark Sankey, Kevin Sellner, Bill Steigelman, Liz VanDolah

OSER staff: Dawn Ashbacher, Shannon Moore

Frederick County Council: Kai Hagen

Guests/Public: Ryan Corbin, Ed McDonald, Jane Sachs, Karen Russell, Vladimir Tolkin, Charles Dalphon, Rich Maranto

Meeting Opening:

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm by John Ferri and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes:

The December meeting minutes were reviewed by the Commission. Bill moved to approve the minutes. Ron seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

Presentation: Energy & Environmental Balance – Mark Sankey:

- Electricity was driven by industry needs.
- Fossil fuel dependence and source data for 2018 (2009 data): nat'l gas 35.2% (23%), coal 27.5% (44%), nuclear 19.4%, and renewables 16.9%.
- The goal for electricity delivery: keep the grid operational. Example AEP Rockport on 5th revision to consent decree. One of two 1300 MW coal-fired units to retire by 2028. Endorsed by environmental groups.
- Affordable Clean Energy Rule-put in place by EPA- goal is optimizing efficiency of older units.
- There is a Carbon Capture & Sequestration program-CO₂ generated us used to assist oil extraction but it is only working due to US subsidies; coal plant retirement better approach to reduce GHGs.
- Recent MD Clean Energy Summit-nuclear energy still an option although expensive capital cost; integrating energy from renewables remains challenging, especially when >40% of generating capacity (per MISO spokesman). KS and Iowa generated >30% of their energy from wind in 2018.

- Local goals-solar array on landfill generates ~2 MW for the grid. Work toward more microgrids for greater County resilience.
- Renewables, wind and solar, increasing. Actual lower limit of fossil fuels remains to be seen. Grid resilience and reliability is issue.
- Public Comment (I. Tolsky): Energy access, delivery, and low cost solutions are not in place for low income, disabled, or destitute parts of population. Should be a priority and Ferri encouraged the individual to become part of the FCSC's energy team. Kaltenbaugh suggested each individual (renter, owner, etc.) has their own meter.

OSER Updates –Shannon Moore:

- Delivered 2019 MS4 results to State, needed 574 acres covered through nutrient trading
- In the last 5 years, County had 1400 acres credited
- County Executive will hold Forest Resource Ordinance (FRO) meeting on 1/22 then to County Council 1/30 or 2/6/2020
 - Includes zoning changes
 - 1:1 tree replacement
 - Green infrastructure requirements
 - Requirement for field assessments of perennial and intermittent stream inspections; assessments are therefore *prior* to re-zoning for construction
- Energy Efficiency Program posted in newsletter
- Upcoming activities
 - Homeshow on 3/22/2020
 - Green Home Challenge 3/26/2020 – Sustainability Awards will be made as certificates
 - Public Comment – Suggested small honoraria or project funding be substituted to reward and encourage expansion of the award-winning activity

Sustainability Awards

- Sustainability Awards (new student category) applications and nominations due 2/13/2020

Commission Joint Meeting Discussion

- John suggested joint meetings of the FCSC with 5-6 other County commissions.

Commission Member Items of Interest

- J. Reed – Has become part of the Climate Change working group
- M. Sankey – Suggested FCSC members consider becoming active participants in several Metropolitan Washington COG committees
- J. Ferri – now a Climate Change Professional from the Climate Academy

- E. Law – continues Detrick Advisory Board activities and has found new expert J. Fritz to assist
- R. Kaltenbaugh – made 2 EV presentations and displays to local schools (high student interest in the cars); considering a similar outreach to County employees
- K. Sellner – announced completion of the Monocacy River WQ Assessment report
- W. Steigelman – will meet with Eric Coffman on the MEA microgrid program
- J. Richardson –
 - Lunch out of landfills
 - 3-4 counties interested
 - State legislation on compost expected
 - FCSC should advocate for fiscal support from the County
- Climate Solution Coalition (international organization)
 - There are local affiliates
 - Mountainside will hold a meeting (April 4th) for 300-400 students to learn about CC projects, such as stream restoration, plantings, shifting crop land to forests
- New project-Lincoln Elementary food made available to Frederick Rescue Mission (saved and transferred 110 milk cartons in 2 days)

Public Comments:

- R. Moranto – seconded early public plea for funds to assist low income folks with energy supply, possibly through a carbon tax.
- I. Tolsky – Carbon tax leads to only more problems for those of low income.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00.

The next meeting will be February 19, 2020.